

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New York.

# ECONOMIC SECURITY AND WORKER ASSISTANCE ACT OF 2001

Mrs. CLINTON. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 308, H.R. 3529.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3529) to provide tax incentives for economic recovery and assistance to displaced workers.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New York.

Mrs. CLINTON. Madam President, before formally making the unanimous consent request, I wish to thank Senator NICKLES for his understanding and cooperation in reaching this point this evening. I very much appreciate his willingness, and that of his staff, to work with us throughout today. And I am very personally grateful for his leadership and good advice and counsel.

This unemployment insurance extension is being sponsored, in addition to myself, by the Presiding Officer, the Senator from Washington, who has been a tremendous advocate, by Senator FITZGERALD of Illinois, and Senator SPECTER of Pennsylvania.

The commitment of all of the sponsors, and others, have made it possible for us to agree this evening to pass a bill that will be extremely welcomed by about 2.1 million Americans who will be able to take advantage of this extension that runs through the end of March. This will also specifically help approximately 177,000 New Yorkers as they enter the holiday season.

Obviously, this is not all that the Presiding Officer and I would have wanted. Perhaps it is more than some would have thought we should do. But I think it works out to be an acceptable compromise in bringing this about at this time.

Again, I personally thank Senator NICKLES for his extraordinary assistance.

So, Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the substitute amendment at the desk be agreed to, the act, as amended, be read a third time, passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate; and that any statements related thereto be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 4960) was agreed to, as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. Section 114 of Public Law 107-229 is amended by striking "the date specified in section 107(c) of this joint resolution" and inserting "March 31, 2003".

## SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF THE TEMPORARY EXTENDED UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION ACT OF 2002.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 208 of the Temporary Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-147; 116 Stat. 30) is amended to read as follows:

### "SEC. 208. APPLICABILITY.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (b), an agreement entered into under this title shall apply to weeks of unemployment—

"(1) beginning after the date on which such agreement is entered into; and

"(2) ending before April 1, 2003.

"(b) TRANSITION FOR AMOUNT REMAINING IN ACCOUNT.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), in the case of an individual who has amounts remaining in an account established under section 203 as of March 29, 2003, temporary extended unemployment compensation shall continue to be payable to such individual from such amounts for any week beginning after such date for which the individual meets the eligibility requirements of this title.

"(2) NO AUGMENTATION AFTER MARCH 26, 2003.—If the account of an individual is exhausted after March 29, 2003, then section 203(c) shall not apply and such account shall not be augmented under such section, regardless of whether such individual's State is in an extended benefit period (as determined under paragraph (2) of such section).

"(3) LIMITATION.—No compensation shall be payable by reason of paragraph (1) for any week beginning after June 28, 2003."

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall take effect as if included in the enactment of the Temporary Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-147; 116 Stat. 21).

The bill (H.R. 3529), as amended, was read a third time and passed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. NICKLES. Madam President, I thank my colleague and friend from New York for working with us. I think we have worked out an acceptable compromise. Senator FITZGERALD and Senator SPECTER were very much interested in passing this bill so we were happy to accommodate them.

In contrast to the previous legislation, which was a significant expansion over current law, of which efforts had been made to pass by unanimous consent earlier today, this is an extension of current law. It is a lot less expensive. This is an extension for 3 months.

We also did something else I think is important. We eliminated the cliff. In other words, current law would say by January 1 the 13-week Federal program would be terminated. This says, no, there is a phaseout. So there is not a cliff. At the end of March, if people are already into the system, they can complete their 13-week program. So I think it is responsible.

Also, for the benefit of my colleagues—and some have reservations about this program because, legitimately, they are wondering whether, if you continue to pay out unemployment benefits, they will stay unemployed. And I happen to appreciate many of those concerns.

Now we will not be wrapped up with this beginning in January. So this will give Congress a chance and hopefully

offer some assistance to those people who really need it and also offer Congress a chance to get off to a good start without wrestling and debating this issue.

I have debated this issue more than I want to debate it. And I appreciate our colleagues on both sides willing to compromise.

The House passed a 1-month extension. This is a 3-month extension eliminating the cliff. I think it is a more orderly and more well-thought-out program that makes sense.

So I will not object to its passage and appreciate our colleagues from New York and Washington, as well as Illinois and Pennsylvania, for their cooperation in making this happen.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New York.

Mrs. CLINTON. As I was listening to the Senator from Oklahoma explain why this makes sense, and particularly to eliminate the cliff that, frankly, people would have fallen off at the end of the year, right at the beginning of a new year—and hopefully providing new hope for people—I could not help but think of our colleague, Paul Wellstone. I think he is smiling down on us. I think he is up there waving his arms, pacing around, and saying, good work, and thanks for doing that.

To me, this is tremendous evidence of the kind of cooperation that can come about to bring us together to help people.

Again, I thank my friend from Oklahoma.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I have been on this floor many, many times when there have been speeches on both sides on extending unemployment insurance going back several months. This is what legislating is all about, the art of compromise. Not everyone got what they wanted. But we got something, and it is very important and very positive.

I extend my appreciation to the Presiding Officer, the Senator from Washington, who worked on this diligently, and, of course, the Senator from New York, who has worked on this very hard.

No one has been on the floor more than the Senator from Oklahoma, and he needs to be complimented because he certainly could have stopped this in the last few hours of the session. He chose not to do that. He chose to move forward on a positive note.

I, not only for the Senate, but for the respective States and the whole country, extend my appreciation to the three of you, all fine legislators.

Mr. NICKLES. Thank you.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. CANTWELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. CLINTON). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Ms. CANTWELL. Madam President, I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate my colleagues on the passage of the unemployment extension bill which we just did by unanimous consent.

This really was a bipartisan effort by the Senator from Oklahoma and from two of our colleagues, the Senator from Illinois, Mr. FITZGERALD, and the Senator from Pennsylvania, Mr. SPECTER, who played a very important role in communicating the needs of unemployment benefit extensions in their States.

I thank the Chair, the Senator from New York, Mrs. CLINTON, who has since July advocated passage of this legislation, talked about the importance of making sure that as our economy has faced a downturn, we continued to make sure the opportunities for income and stimulus in our economy were there.

As she fought for the State of New York, which has been gravely impacted by the events of 9/11 and the downturn in the economy where jobs are just not being created, the Senator got all of us in the country to realize how critical the issue was for us moving forward at a time when the economy has not returned to positive growth.

Obviously the State of Washington has been greatly impacted by that same downturn, in the aerospace industry, in high tech. This legislation will actually help over 75,000 Washingtonians who will get the benefit of having an extension of a program and, being a high unemployment State, will qualify for the benefits of that program. This is actually something I think a few Washingtonians tonight, maybe a few Seattlites, will be sleeping a little bit better from, knowing that in the impending months, as we struggle to get the economy going again, they will actually be able to meet those mortgage payments, pay those health care bills, and continue to move forward.

Economists have said this kind of stimulus has a two-to-one effect; that for every dollar spent on unemployment benefits, it generates about \$2.15 into the local economy. We have done a good service for my State's economy and for New York's and Pennsylvania and Illinois, for the whole country, because we will be stimulating those individuals' disposable income.

Again, I thank the Senator from New York for her hard work and vision, pointing out last summer the need to do it, being diligent in this process. And tonight, because of this bipartisan support, there will be more Americans sleeping better as we approach the tough challenges ahead in getting our economy moving but knowing that we have not left workers behind, workers who would rather have a paycheck than an unemployment check, but at least now they will be continuing to add to the economy.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. CANTWELL). Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to a period of morning business with Senators allowed to speak therein for a period not to exceed 5 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### IN REMEMBRANCE OF PAUL WELLSTONE

Mr. CHAFEE. Madam President, today I offer my condolences to all the friends, family members and admirers of Paul Wellstone. As has been said many times, Paul Wellstone was fiercely proud of the causes with which he associated himself. Certainly, to have Paul Wellstone articulately and strongly arguing on one's behalf was a great asset. His many friends are forever grateful for his wrestler's tenacity as he advocated for those issues in which he so emotionally believed.

Several years ago a candidate for Congress in Rhode Island retired from the campaign because of a shortage of funds, declaring that no longer could "Mr. Smith go to Washington." Paul Wellstone proved that yes, indeed, Mr. Smith could go to Washington. In 1990 he challenged an incumbent who possessed a huge financial advantage in what many assumed to be a quixotic and hopeless campaign. In November of that year Paul Wellstone was the only challenger to beat an incumbent, providing inspiration forever to long shots.

Three cheers for the people of Minnesota who have shown a propensity for embracing people of divergent philosophies. In the last few years Minnesota has elected Rod Grams, Jesse Ventura and Paul Wellstone; public servants with very different approaches to the issues of the day. I join Minnesotans and Americans in mourning the death of the passionate and good-natured Paul Wellstone.

#### TRIBUTE TO SENATOR MAX CLELAND

Mr. CONRAD. Madam President, I am honored to pay tribute and recognize the leadership, dedication to public service and hard work of my colleague from Georgia, Senator MAX CLELAND. Few Members of the Senate have sacrificed so much for their country.

Senator CLELAND has had a remarkable 30-year career in public service including a tour of duty in Vietnam in 1967 in which he was awarded the Bronze and Silver Stars for meritorious service. MAX started his career in the military soon after graduating from Stetson University, where he was a member of the Army ROTC. In 1967, he volunteered for duty in Vietnam. He quickly worked his way up the ranks, earning a promotion to Captain in 1968. In April of the same year, he was seriously wounded in a grenade explosion, which cost him both of his legs and his right arm. One month before his tour was up, he was sent home to recover from his injuries.

His dedication to public service continued when he won a seat in the Georgia State Senate. As the youngest state senator, he pushed for a State law making public facilities accessible to the disabled. In 1975, Senator CLELAND began his lifelong mission of improving the lives of the men and women in the military. MAX was asked to work for the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee, and 2 years later he accepted the position to head up the U.S. Veterans Administration. He was the youngest administrator and only Vietnam veteran to ever head up the agency. During his time with the Veterans Administration, MAX instituted the "Vets Center Program," which for the first time provided psychological counseling to combat veterans. This program has now led to over 200 Vet Centers around the country.

Senator CLELAND continued his public service for the people of Georgia in 1982, when he was elected Secretary of State. During his time in this position, he fought relentlessly for campaign finance reform and to reduce telemarketing fraud. Senator CLELAND also played a key role in the implementation of the National Voter Registration Act, or Motor Voter, in the State of Georgia. This in turn allowed an increase in access to government by getting nearly 1 million citizens of Georgia registered to vote.

MAX was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1996; he filled the spot that was vacated by the retiring Sam Nunn. The 6 years that he spent in the Senate were marked by his passion and drive to accomplish what was of importance to the people he served. He was a proponent for the Patients' Bill of Rights and doggedly battled for the improvement of education by way of increased resources for teacher training and certification.

As a former military man who served his country in Vietnam, Senator CLELAND brought an understanding to the Senate Chamber, of the sacrifices made by individuals in the armed forces. This understanding led him to champion military causes. As chairman of the Personnel Subcommittee of the Armed Services Committee, he fought for improvements in the quality of life of our active-duty, reserve, and retired military personnel through enhancement of the Montgomery G.I. Bill